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NIT-241

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. NISHIDA et al.
Serial No.: 09/940,924
Filed: August 29, 2001
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING CONSUMER
GOODS USED IN AN ANALYER
Group: 3647
Examiner: L. Jasmin

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 7, 2007

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the foreign references listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted and is accompanied by the following certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e):

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

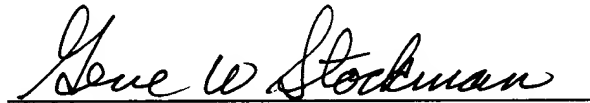
To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language abstract and a translation of the documents.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

No fee is believed to be due. However, please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger, Malur & Brundidge, Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. NIT-241) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gene W. Stockman", is written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of
Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark
Office

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

NIP-241

09/940,924

APPLICANT

M. NISHIDA et al.

FILING DATE

August 29, 2001

GROUP

3627

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	ABSTRACT	
						YES	NO
	WO 00/2999A	25/05/2000	WO				
	EP 0 8710034A2	14/10/1997	EP				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.